आपने उनसे सहायता की कोई मांग की है? दोनों तरफ के कैम्पों का सवाल है। हम वहां के लिए सहायता दे रहे हैं या नहीं और वे हमारे देश में जो कैम्प्स हैं उनके लिए सहायता दे रहे हैं या नहीं?

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल : जहां तक कैम्पों का ताल्लुक है, अभी तो पूरी तरह से कोई खास कैम्प्स बने नहीं हैं। लेकिन हमने कहा है यू० एन० एजेंसीज को, कि अगर केम्प खोलने में कुछ करेंगे तो हम लोग मदद करेंगे यहां की सरकार की तरफ से। जहां तक उन केम्पों का ताल्लुक है जो यहां पर हैं और श्रीलंका गवर्नमेंट की रवैया उनकी तरफ क्या हो, यह एक ऐसी बात है जिसके मुत्तालिक एक बात बनी हुई है इंटरनेशनल स्वभाव को आम तौर पर जिन देशों से लोग आते हैं वह खास मदद नहीं करते।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : खास मदद नहीं करते, क्या आपने मदद मांगी है?

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल : मांगना क्या हुआ। (व्यवधान)

Visit of the Sri Lankan Delegation to India

*23. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTINAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:†

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Sri Lankan delegation had visited India to hold talks with Government since the fresh escalation of conflict between the Tamils of Sri Lanka and the Sri Lankan Armed Forces;

(b) if so, the names of the members of the delegation, the date of their visit and he dignitaries with whom they held talks;

(c) what was the nature of the talks held and the outcome thereof; and

(d) what specific steps the delegation suggested to solve the Sri Lankan crisis?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) : After the armed conflict between the Sri Lankan forces and LTTE resumed on June 11, 1990, the following delegations from Sri Lanka have visited New Delhi:

(a) The Sri Lankan Foreign Secretary visited India from 30 June to July 2, 1990. The visiting Foreign Secretary met EAM and the Foreign Secretary.

(b) A Sri Lankan parliamentary delegation visited Delhi from July 16 to 21, 1990, and was led by the Speaker of Sri Lankan Parliament, Hon. M. H.. Mohamed. Other members of the delegation were:

Hon. Ranil Wickremasinghe, Minister of Industries, Science & Technology.

Hon. (Ms.) R. Pulendran, Minister of State for Education.

Mr. Anura Bandaranaike, MP (SLFP).

Mr. Dharmasiri Senanayake, MP (SLFP).

Mr. Dinesh Gunawardene, MP (Leader Mahajan Eksath Peramuna).

Mr. M.L.A.M. Hisbullah, MP (SLMC).

Mr. Bradman Weerakoon (Advisor to the President on International Relations).

2. The delegation met the Vice-President, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister, other members of the National

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. Gopalsamy.

Front, Members of other political parties including the Congress(I), BJP, CPI, CPM and academics/Intellectuals. The Sri Lankan delegation briefed them about the developments leading to the resumption of armed conflict in Sri Lanka. The delegation underlined that the Sri Lankan Government had tried to meet the demands of the LTTE and bring it into the political process, but the latter had spurned these efforts and had resumed armed hostilities. They emphasised that the outbreak of the present hostilities in Sri Lanka was not directed against the Tamils of Sri Lanka but against the LTTE and terrorism. Government and representatives of the other parties in India expressed their concern at the increasing reports of civilian casualties in Sri Lanka the increasing influx of refugees into India and possible involvement of third parties in the conflict.

3. The Sri Lankan delegation were of the view that the crisis in Sri Lanka can only be resolved politically. The delegation appreciated India's concerns and during the discussions the idea of Sri Lanka setting up refugee camps in Sri Lanka itself was mooted.

4. The Sri Lankan delegation also proposed that a multi-party Indian parliamentary delegation visit Sri Lanka in the near future.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the reply given by the Hon. Minister, in paragraph no. 2, there is a reference about the message given by the delegation to our Government. It is stated that the outbreak of the present hostilities in Sri Lanka was not directed against the Tamils of Sri Lanka but against the LTTE and terrorism. This message was given by the Sri Lankan delegation. But Sir, with a distressed heart, I would like to tell the Minister and this House that under the guise of fighting the LTTE, the Sri Lankan Government launched all its three forces to decimate... (*Interruptions*). No, I am putting the question. Please listen to me. (*Interruptions*). It has been stated that they are only fighting the LTTE and not fighting against the Tamils. But innocent Tamils are being killed. There are no medicines. Hospitals have been paralysed and for the first time in history, Tamils died of starvation in some part of the northern province. So heart-rending stories are there. The refugees say that even at this very moment, helicopter-gunships and air force planes are bombarding the civilian areas to wipe out the Tamil race. This is nothing but genocide. Genocidal attack is going on. (*Interruptions*)

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : सभापति महोदय, यह तमिल इश्यु इतना गम्भीर है कि इस सवाल का जवाब देने के बजाय इस पर शार्ट डयूरेशन डिसकशन होनी चाहिये जिसका नोटिस हम लोग पहले ही दे चुके हैं । सारी चीज पर डिसकशन किया जाए, इसका नोटिस हम पहले दे चुके हैं ।

We want to discuss it. (*Interruptions*). We have given notice to you, Sir. Short duration notice is there. (*Interruptions*). I am helping you, Mr. Gopalsamy. Try to understand me. I am very much concerned about the civilians in Jaffna. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI T. R. BALU: We won't allow anybody from the Congress to go ahead. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: We want a thorough discussion on Tamil issue. It is not your personal property. The LTTE or Tamils are not your personal property. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Mr. Ahluwalia, I appreciate your concern very much. (*Interruptions*). Now the Sri Lankan Government is trying to put the blame on the Tamils and the LTTE. (*Interruptions*). The refugees say that the Sri Lankan Government has started this present confrontation. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him put his question. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Sir, we want a full-fledged discussion on this. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you permit me to decide? Now when Mr. Narayanasamy was putting his question, they were raising objection. Then people said, I am not controlling. I said, I can control if the law, the rules are observed from both sides and we find that now suddenly when Mr. Gopalsamy puts his question, the same thing is happening. That is why, I asked this question.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH:*

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. What are you saying? (*Interruption*).

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sitting here. (*Interruption*). So long as I am sitting here, you are not in the Chair.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN:*

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you kindly take your seat? Let him put his question.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: My point is, the Sri Lankan Government is launching a misinformation campaign and a Goebbelsian propaganda. At the same time it is trying to decimate the Tamil population. The Government should not only express concern but outright condemnation against the killings of innocent Tamil people in Sri Lanka. May I request the hon. Minister to concede my suggestion?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sir, when the delegation came, they met all the political parties here and.... (*Interruption*).

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Not all the political parties. (*Interruptions*). Because I am a Tamil, they did not meet me.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I will bring it to their notice. (*Interruptions*). I think all the political parties here were, with one voice, expressing their concern about what was happening in Sri Lanka. I think it is a good thing because the parliamentary delegation understood it. They met the hon. Speaker and they also met the leaders of various political parties. Although they met them separately, a consensus was there that what was happening in Sri Lanka was not acceptable. Therefore, I think it was a good thing that we raised our unanimous voice on this. It must be understood that we have also, with equal emphasis, conveyed to the Sri Lankan delegation when they came and to the Foreign Secretary of Sri Lanka when he came earlier, our concern regarding the safety and security of the Tamils. Our concern that these developments may result in increased influx of refugees into India and the possibilites of third countries getting involved were conveyed to them with all the force. We have also told them that they must see to it that the civilian casualties are avoided and that civilians do not suffer. Therefore, I think that I am voicing the feeling of this House when I say that we all feel concerned about it.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the statement there is a reference to a multi-party Indian Parliamentary delegation visiting Sri Lanka in the near future. Of course, I am not for it. But if there is such a proposal being seriously considered, I would like to point out that such a delecation should be able to visit he affected areas of the northern and the eastern parts of the Island, that is, the Tamil areas. For that the Sri Lankan Government should declare a cease-fire. Such an atmosphere should be created. Then only the purpose of the visit of the delegation from India would be served in the best interest of the Tamils. May I know from the Minister his reaction?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: My hon. friend would have seen from the statement that it was an invitation extended to Parliament of India and naturally, it is for the Parliament of

*Not recorded.

India to respond. If Parliament Members and the Chairman and the Speaker decide that a delegation should go, then obviously, the concern expressed by the Member should be conveyed.

SHRI M. VINCENT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, about 2000 Tamils died without food and medicine in Sri Lanka. More than one lakh Tamils are starving without food and medicine in Sri Lanka and their conditions are worse than those of the refugees in Tamil Nadu. So I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government will airdrop food packets and medicines for them like Rajiv Government did acceding to the request of Dr. M.G.R.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sir, I think we are dealing with the situation in its totality. We are approaching the International Red Cross and also the international refugee organisation, the U.N. Refugee Organisation, to intervene in this. And whatever we are called upon to contribute, we shall contribute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Raj Mohan Gandhi.

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: Would the Minister be good enough to say whether the Government has thought it fit to advise the LTTE, through its contacts or in any other way, to come to the negotiating table with the Government of Sri Lanka?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: We are of the view that ultimately the problem should be solved by negotiations and politically. We have no direct contact with the LTTE but I hope, some friends who have contacts here would convey it to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Syed Sibtey Razi.

श्री सैयद सिब्ते रजी : सर, आज जो श्रीलंका में हो रहा है और तमिलियंस को जो प्राब्लम आ गयी है, उस पर हमारी सरकार की बहुत बड़ी जिम्मदारी है। आई०पी०के०एफ० के विदड्रावल के पहले वहां तमिलियंस की सेफटी और सेक्यूरिटी पूर्ण रूप से आश्वस्त किए बगैर जिस तरह से हमारी सरकार ने वहां पर नयी सरकार जो श्रीलंका में आई उससे समझौता किया और उसमें हालात खराब हुए। माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहूंगा कि राजीव गांधी और जयवर्धने के बीच जो पुराना समझौता हुआ था, उस समझौते के अंदर तमिलियंस की प्राब्लम के बारे में कई प्रस्ताव रखे गये थे। तो क्या आप उस समझौते पर अमल बरामद कर रहे हैं या आपने और आनेवाली श्रीलंका की सरकार ने उस समझौते को रद्द कर दिया है?

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल : जहां तक इस सरकार का ताल्लुक है, हम ने एक बार नहीं कई बार इस बात पर जोर दिया है कि जो समझौता राजीव गांधी और जयवर्धने के बीच हुआ था, वह समझौता वैलिड है, कायम है और वही बुनियाद है हमारे आपसी फैसले करने की।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. J. K. Jain.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether the parliamentary delegation which visited India has tried to visit the refugee camps in Tamil Nadu; if yes, whether they visited the refugee camps in Tamil Nadu and if not, whether they asked for permission to visit these camps? If yes, who denied them permission to visit the camps? If we are asking that we should be allowed to visit our people in Sri Lanka, when the Sri Lankan people come here, their parliamentary delegation or Government delegation, do they not have the right to visit their own countrymen staying here in our country?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: So far as I am aware, Sir, permission was neither sought nor given.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri S. S. Ahluwalia.

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलूवालिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने जैसे आपसे पहले भी गुजारिश की है, यह एक अहम मुद्दा है और इस पर शार्ट ड्यूरेशन डिस्कशन भी पेंडिंग

है। इस पर डिटेल्ड डिस्कशन होना चाहिए। उसके बाद मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि तमिलियंस की जो वहां पर हत्या हो रही है उससे गोपालसामी जो बहुत ज्यादा कंसर्न्ड हैं, बिना पासपोर्ट और बिना "वीसा" के वहां पर घूमकर आ चुके है। अब पासपोर्ट और वीसा देकर किन पार्लियामेंट के मेंबर्स को आप को भेजना है, उनके नाम तो निधारित करें। दूसरे यह बताने की कृपा करें कि श्रीलंका सरकार के साथ बैठकर आपने जो फैसले किए और एक एम्बेसडर नियुक्त किया। तो उसकी नियुक्त के बाद उसे वहां के राष्ट्रपति को अपना नियुक्त पत्र दिखाने में और अपना ऑफिस जाइन करने में कितने दिन लगे ? यह बताने की कृपा करें।

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल : जहां तक इस बात का ताल्लुक है कि पार्लियामेंट के कौन मेंबर जाएं, कहां जाएं, इससे जाहिर है कि सरकार का कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है। यह तो पार्लियामेंट खुद फैसला करती है कि डेलीगेशन में कौन जाएंगे कौन नहीं जाएंगे। राज्य सभा से कौन जाएं, लोकसभा मे कौन जाएं, यह तो अध्यक्ष महोदय यहां पर और स्पीकर साहब वहां पर बैठकर फैसला करते हैं और जो फैसला करते हैं, वह हमें मंजूर होता है। सरकार इसमें कोई दखल नही देती है और न ही कोई दखल देने का इरादा है। डेलीगेशन कब जाए, यह फैसला भी दोनों पार्लियामेंटस आपस में करती हैं। अगर यहां के अध्यक्ष महोदय और स्पीकर साहब फैसला करें कि भेजना है तो हम उसके लिए पूरी चैनल बनने के लिए तैयार हैं। वहां पर बात पहुंचा देंगे। जहां तक आपकी इस बात का ताल्लुक है कि बहस होनी चाहिए, यह तो अध्यक्ष महोदय के हाथ में है। इसका फैसला मुझे नहीं करना है। तीसरी बात आपने कही हमारे हाय कमिश्नर के क्रिडसियल प्रजंट करने के बारे में। तो 14 अगस्त को क्रिडेंसियल प्रेजेंट होगा। यह नार्मल कोर्स है, दुनिया के हर देश के अंदर हमारे एम्बेसेडर 23 तारीख को पहुंचे थे। एक-दो हफ्ते हर देश में लग जाते हैं क्रिडसियल प्रजेंट करने में। कोई नयी बात नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 24.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: I raised my hand first but you didn't call me. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Protests on permitting Amnesty International to visit India

24. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently decided to permit the Amnesty International to visit India particularly Kashmir and Punjab;

(b) if so, what are the reaosns therefor; and

(c) whether protests have been made against it by M.Ps., political parties and other organisations; if so, the details thereof; the precise rounds of such protests and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Following a review of our policy towards Amnesty International, Government decided to let members of Amnesty International to come to India for private visits or to meet the Government. It has not made any request for any enquiry nor such a permission has been granted.

(b) The decision was based on Government's firm conviction that democratic India's record of protecting and promoting Human Rights is second to none and that there is no reason for India to be defensive on this score.

(c) Government have seen Press reports of critical statements by M.Ps., political parties and others. Government have taken full note of these views.